

January 2, 1955

*oo Refugee Reports*

TO : M.H.B. Adler  
FROM : Randall V. Frakes  
SUBJECT: Than Thuy Refugee Village, Ba Tri District,  
Ben Tre Province.

Field Report FS-25

There are about 600 persons at Than Thuy living in 100 houses which have not been satisfactory because of reportedly poor construction. Some of the people work for local landlords at 20 piasters a day but the rest have little to do. They have cut wood but have no means to transport it to a market. The Chief of Province has promised to provide a boat for this purpose. No land available for use of refugees.

There are two wells, each about 3 meters deep, but one is salty and the other provides less than 15 liters of water a day. Water is carried from a well at a village about 1 kilometer distant, but the local population will permit them to take water from this well only at irregular intervals. There is a 1st aid kit the priest is in charge.

Than Thuy has a school which handles over 350 pupils now and anticipates at least 500 total by next month. These pupils come from the three refugees villages, Than Thuy, Bai Ngao, and Ba Tang. Pupils sit on the wet, muddy floor and do their work by using the benches as tables. There is a need for some school furnishing and for teaching materials. This is an important location since it provides the only education for the refugee children in the who Ba Tri District.